



A Christian with Character
LIVES A LIFE OF THANKSGIVING

The Twenty-First Sunday after Pentecost

GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH | *Kearney, Nebraska*

Sunday, October 9, 2016

WELCOME TO GOOD SHEPHERD!

We are so happy you could join us today! If we can assist you in any way with questions about our confession of faith, spiritual struggles, understanding our liturgical service, or any other need, please let us know. It is our prayer that the Gospel of Jesus Christ will strengthen and comfort you.

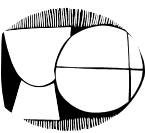
For your convenience, **Listening Devices** are available for those who need assistance in hearing the service. Please speak with an usher if you need one. A **Nursery** is also available and is equipped with a speaker so that a minimal amount of the service is missed. The nursery is located in the hallway just off the entryway (first door on left).

SERVICE NOTES FOR THIS SUNDAY

The Living God repeatedly works in the strangest of ways and with the strangest of objects for his loving and gracious activity. In a time of history when everyone was doing what was right in his own eyes, the LORD moved world, regional and local events to fit together so that Ruth, a Moabitess, would get a new god. She was turned from her old, dead gods and, by the grace of God, confessed her new LORD. The thin, blood-red line of the Promise included even her and then was passed on through her. Grace upon grace.

You had old gods, too. You are repeatedly pulled to bow to those old gods when your heart is troubled by what you see or don't see, by what you hear or don't hear, by what you feel or don't feel. But, by the grace of God, the LORD moved world, regional and local events to fit together so that you got a new god, one who buried you and who make you alive in Christ Jesus—this He promises! So, to hell with your silly feelings and sensory perceptions that seem to portray another kind of god is in charge! The Word prevails. Jesus died. Jesus rose. Jesus continues to rule all things for the good of His body, the Church. Listen! And speak such power into the hearts of those who are troubled within earshot of you!

HOLY COMMUNION IS OFFERED TODAY



In Holy Communion, we share in the mystery of the bread and wine offered together with the body and blood of Christ. As Christians who believe that the Bible is inspired by God and that every word written in it is God’s holy word, we believe that we receive the body and blood in, with, and under the bread and wine.

While this is something that goes beyond our human understanding, our faith allows us to accept this as true. God warns us in the Bible that anyone who doesn’t understand this teaching or who denies this real presence of Christ’s body and blood will do damage to his or her soul if not taught first.

As a congregation we care about people and about the spiritual well-being of individuals, especially those attending the Lord’s Table today. If you are a guest and desire to commune, please speak to the pastor before the service. Our altar is open to those who confess oneness with us in doctrine, are not under church discipline in another congregation, and are members of our congregation, one of our sister congregations in the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod [WELS], or a member of our sister synod, the Evangelical Lutheran Synod [ELS].

SERVING IN THE DIVINE SERVICE

- Preacher & Presiding Minister**.....Pr. Nathanael Seelow
- Pianist**Michelle Reinsch
- Ushers**Randy Kahle & Brent Meyer
- Greeters**Oscar & Arleta Bauch
- Sound Technician**Jamie Scott

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THE DIVINE SERVICE

The Service of Word & Sacrament — Christian Worship, pg. 26



See the insert for more information on this hymn.

OPENING HYMN

All Praise to God Who Reigns Above | CW 236

INVOCATION

2 Corinthians 13:15

Please stand.

[M] The grace of our Lord ✙ Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you.

[C] And also with you.

CONFESSION OF SINS

[M] If we say we have fellowship with God while we walk in darkness,

[C] we lie and do not practice the truth.

[M] But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light,

[C] we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin. *1 John 1:6,7*

[M] God invites us to come into his presence and worship him with humble and penitent hearts. Therefore, let us acknowledge our sinfulness and ask him to forgive us.

Silence for meditation on God's Word and for self-examination as you consider your thoughts, words, and actions according to the Ten Commandments.

[C] Holy and merciful Father,

[C] I confess that I am by nature sinful, and that I have disobeyed you in my thoughts, words, and actions. I have done what is evil and failed to do what is good. For this I deserve your punishment both now and in

"The Office of the Keys is that special authority which Christ has given to His church on earth to forgive the sins of repentant sinners..."

*— Small Catechism,
The Office of the
Keys, Part I*

eternity. But I am truly sorry for my sins, and trusting in my Savior Jesus Christ, I pray: Lord, have mercy on me, a sinner.

ABSOLUTION

M God, our heavenly Father, has been merciful to us and has given his only Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son ✠ and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

LORD, HAVE MERCY — *Kyrie*

Mark 10:47

M For all that we need in life and for the wisdom to use all your gifts with gratitude and joy, hear our prayer, O Lord.



M For the steadfast assurance that nothing can separate us from your love and for the courage to stand firm against the assaults of Satan and every evil, hear our prayer, O Christ.



M For the well-being of your holy Church in all the world and for those who offer here their worship and praise, hear our prayer, O Lord.



"All confidence is empty, except confidence in mercy. Mercy delivers us; our own merits, our own efforts, do not."

— *Apology to the Augsburg Confession, V:209*

- [M]** Merciful God, maker and preserver of life, uphold us by your power and keep us in your tender care:



- [M]** The works of the Lord are great and glorious; his name is worthy of praise!

O LORD, OUR LORD

C: O Lord, our Lord, how glo - rious is your name in
all the earth. Al - might - y God, mer - ci - ful Fa - ther,
you crown our life with your love. You take a - way our sin;
you com - fort our spir - it; you make us pure and
ho - ly in your sight. You did not spare your on - ly Son,
but gave him up for us all. O Lord, our Lord,
how glo - rious is your name in all the earth.

O Son of God, e - ter - nal Word of the Fa - ther,
 you came to live with us; you made your Fa - ther known;
 you washed us from our sins in your own blood. You are the
 King of glo - ry; you are the Lord! O Lord, our Lord,
 how glo - rious is your name in all the earth.

The Service of the Word



The Service of the Word is modeled after the Synagogue worship of the Hebrew people, which our Lord himself participated in and led, as recorded throughout the Gospels (cf. Luke 4:16; Mark 1:21; John 18:20). Synagogue worship consisted of readings from the Law and the Prophets, which correspond to our Epistle and Gospel lessons. It also included the chanting of Psalms, which are reflected by our Psalm and Verse of the Day.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

[M] Let us pray.

Grant, O merciful Lord, to your faithful people pardon and peace that they may be cleansed from all their sins and serve you with a quiet mind; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: A - men.

Be seated.

The LORD had brought Naomi and her daughters-in-law through the hardship of their husbands' deaths. On hearing that the LORD had come to the aid of his starving people, Naomi readies herself for the journey back home. Though she had two daughters-in-law, only one went with her. In faith, Ruth clings to her mother-in-law, determined to remain with her and with the LORD. Such loyalty is honorable, even by earthly standards. Yet our loyalty to each other and to the LORD is not a matter of honor, but a matter of faith. In thanksgiving our very lives are dedicated to the Lord and his service.

IN THE DAYS WHEN THE JUDGES RULED there was a famine in the land, and a man of Bethlehem in Judah went to sojourn in the country of Moab, he and his wife and his two sons. ² The name of the man was Elimelech and the name of his wife Naomi, and the names of his two sons were Mahlon and Chilion. They were Ephrathites from Bethlehem in Judah. They went into the country of Moab and remained there. ³ But Elimelech, the husband of Naomi, died, and she was left with her two sons. ⁴ These took Moabite wives; the name of the one was Orpah and the name of the other Ruth. They lived there about ten years, ⁵ and both Mahlon and Chilion died, so that the woman was left without her two sons and her husband.

⁶ Then she arose with her daughters-in-law to return from the country of Moab, for she had heard in the fields of Moab that the LORD had visited his people and given them food. ⁷ So she set out from the place where she was with her two daughters-in-law, and they went on the way to return to the land of Judah. ⁸ But Naomi said to her two daughters-in-law, "Go, return each of you to her mother's house. May the LORD deal kindly with you, as you have dealt with the dead and with me. ⁹ The LORD grant that you may find rest, each of you in the house of her husband!" Then she kissed them, and they lifted up their voices and wept. ¹⁰ And they said to her, "No, we will return with you to your people." ¹¹ But Naomi said, "Turn back, my daughters; why will you go with me? Have I yet sons in my womb that they may become your husbands? ¹² Turn back, my daughters; go your way, for I am too old to have a husband. If I should say I have hope, even if I should have a husband this night and should bear sons, ¹³ would you therefore wait till they were grown? Would you therefore refrain from marrying? No, my daughters, for it is exceedingly bitter to me for your sake that the hand of the LORD has gone out against me." ¹⁴ Then they lifted up their voices and wept again. And Orpah kissed her mother-in-law, but Ruth clung to her.

¹⁵ And she said, "See, your sister-in-law has gone back to her people and to her gods; return after your sister-in-law." ¹⁶ But Ruth said,

“Do not urge me to leave you or to return from following you. For where you go I will go, and where you lodge I will lodge. Your people shall be my people, and your God my God. ¹⁷ Where you die I will die, and there will I be buried. May the LORD do so to me and more also if anything but death parts me from you.” ¹⁸ And when Naomi saw that she was determined to go with her, she said no more.

¹⁹ So the two of them went on until they came to Bethlehem.

M The Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God!

PSALM OF THE DAY

Psalm 111 | CW p. 106



Refrain

Great are the works of the LORD;*
they are pondered by all who delight in them.

Glorious and majestic are his deeds,*
and his righteousness endures forever.

He has caused his wonders to be remembered;
the LORD is gracious and compassionate.

Refrain

Luther suggested that the words of verse 4, “the LORD is gracious and compassionate,” should be painted in golden letters around a portrait of the Lord’s Supper (AE 13:375), for in the Supper Christians continue to remember both the words and the works of the Lord.

Psalm tone



The works of his hands are faithful and just;*
all his precepts are trustworthy.

He provided redemption for his people;*
he ordained his covenant forever.

The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom;*
all who follow his precepts have good understanding.

*Glory be to the Father and to the Son**
and to the Holy Spirit,
*as it was in the beginning,**
is now, and will be forever. Amen.

Refrain

The prayers of the saints rise up to heaven as Paul found himself in deadly peril. How many days have come and gone that have found us uncertain of the future? We find ourselves in circumstances that leave us excessively burdened, questioning how we will survive. And then the Lord's deliverance comes. He who raised the Lord Jesus from the dead will raise us up from deadly peril and hardship, causing thanksgiving in our hearts and in the hearts of many others. Because our hope is founded on his promise, our thanks pour forth both now and into eternity.

SECOND LESSON

2 Corinthians 1:8-11

FOR WE DO NOT WANT YOU TO BE UNAWARE, brothers, of the affliction we experienced in Asia. For we were so utterly burdened beyond our strength that we despaired of life itself. ⁹ Indeed, we felt that we had received the sentence of death. But that was to make us rely not on ourselves but on God who raises the dead. ¹⁰ He delivered us from such a deadly peril, and he will deliver us. On him we have set our hope that he will deliver us again. ¹¹ You also must help us by prayer, so that many will give thanks on our behalf for the blessing granted us through the prayers of many.

M The Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God!

VERSE OF THE DAY

Isaiah 25:9b; John 20:21

[M] Alleluia! Alleluia This is the Lord, we trusted in him; let us rejoice and be glad in his salvation. Alleluia!

C: Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

These words are writ - ten that we may be - lieve that

Je - sus is the Christ, the Son of God.

Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

HOLY GOSPEL

Luke 17:11-19

Please stand.

[M] The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, chapter seventeen.

ON THE WAY TO JERUSALEM he was passing along between Samaria and Galilee. ¹² And as he entered a village, he was met by ten lepers, who stood at a distance ¹³ and lifted up their voices, saying, “Jesus, Master, have mercy on us.” ¹⁴ When he saw them he said to them, “Go and show yourselves to the priests.” And as they went they were cleansed. ¹⁵ Then one of them, when he saw that he was healed, turned back, praising God with a loud voice; ¹⁶ and he fell on his face at Jesus’ feet, giving him thanks. Now he was a Samaritan. ¹⁷ Then Jesus answered, “Were not ten cleansed? Where are the nine? ¹⁸ Was no one found to return and give praise to God except this foreigner?” ¹⁹ And he said to him, “Rise and go your way; your faith has made you well.”

Cries for mercy are answered by a heart filled with compassion. Those once separated by sickness are welcomed back. Yet only one returns to give thanks to his Savior for deliverance. Whether it's leprosy of the body or leprosy of the soul, Jesus has cleansed the afflicted. In his compassion for those diseased by sin, he has given his life to restore our membership in the family of our Father. By faith, our hearts are now moved to thankfulness for the healing hand of our gracious Lord. Our whole lives will be filled with thanksgiving.

The Hymn of the Day is one of the few Lutheran additions to the historic Mass of the Church. It is usually doctrinal in nature and emphasizes and teaches the theme of the day (usually found in the Gospel lesson). By singing this hymn, we place the theme on our lips and proclaim and preach it to each other.

Upon hearing the Word preached, the congregation unites in one voice to speak a summary of the Christian faith just preached. The creeds signify our allegiance to Christian doctrine and unite us with over 2,000 years of Christian history. By repeating the creeds weekly, we equip ourselves for public witness by grounding our confession in the fundamentals of our faith.

[M] This is the Gospel of the Lord.



Be seated.

HYMN OF THE DAY

Your Hand, O Lord, in Days of Old | **CW 520**

SERMON

Ruth 1:15-18

¹⁵ And she said, “See, your sister-in-law has gone back to her people and to her gods; return after your sister-in-law.” ¹⁶ But Ruth said, “Do not urge me to leave you or to return from following you. For where you go I will go, and where you lodge I will lodge. Your people shall be my people, and your God my God. ¹⁷ Where you die I will die, and there will I be buried. May the LORD do so to me and more also if anything but death parts me from you.” ¹⁸ And when Naomi saw that she was determined to go with her, she said no more.

Your God of Grace Upon Grace

APOSTLES’ CREED

[C]	I believe in God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth.	<i>2 Cor. 6:18 Is. 51:13</i>
	I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried.	<i>1 Cor. 8:6; Jn. 3:18 Lk. 1:35 Lk. 1:34; 2:7 Lk. 23:16 Mt. 27:32-61; Mk. 15:21-47; Lk. 23:26-56; Jn. 19:16b-42</i>
	He descended into hell. The third day he rose again from the dead.	<i>1 Pet. 3:19 1 Cor. 15:4b</i>

He ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of
God the Father almighty.
From there he will come to judge the living
and the dead.

Ac. 2:33-34

Heb. 1:13

Mt. 25:31; 2 Tim. 4:1

I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy Christian Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.

Mt. 3:16-17

Eph. 5:23

Eph. 4:3-6

Rom. 4:6-8

Ecc. 12:7

1 Th. 4:17

Be seated.

OFFERING

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Please stand.

The Service of the Sacrament



[M] The Lord be with you.

Ruth 2:4; 2 Timothy 4:22



C: And al - so with you.

[M] Lift up your hearts.



C: We lift them up to the Lord.

[M] Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

Psalms 136



C: It is right to give him thanks and praise.

"Because it has been accepted as a practice in the Christian church, that in the public assemblies of the church after the preaching and hearing of the Word, this Sacrament is celebrated, therefore this custom must not be departed from without urgent necessity. It is...clear from Acts 20:7 and 1 Cor. 11:20,33 that when the [early] Christians did gather at one place, they were accustomed to celebrate the Eucharist."

— Johann Gerhard

First recorded in A.D. 220, this dialog and prayer (Salutation & Preface) begins the liturgy of the Lord's Supper. Each season has it's own text (italics).

[M] Praise to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In love he has blessed us with every spiritual blessing. *He sends the Holy Spirit to testify that we are his children and to strengthen us when we are weak.* Now have come the salvation and the power and the kingdom of our God and the authority of his Christ. To him who sits on the throne and to the Lamb be praise and thanks and honor and glory for ever and ever:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY — Sanctus

Isaiah 6:3; Matthew 21:9

C: Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly is the Lord of hosts.

The whole earth is full of your glo - ry.

You are my God, and I will ex - alt you.

I will give you thanks, for you have be - come my sal -

va - tion. Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly is the Lord of hosts.

The whole earth is full of your glo - ry.

As the testaments are linked to Christ in the Service of the Word, so do we remember and give thanks for salvation history in the Church's table prayer.

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

[M] Blessed are you, O God Almighty, who through Jesus Christ, your eternal Word, created all things and made mankind in your own image. When Adam sinned and lost your image, you did not forsake the people you had

created. You sent your only begotten Son to take on human flesh through the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary. As our substitute, he fulfilled all of your laws in our place and died the death we deserve because of our sin.

O God our Savior, you have gathered us here to remember Jesus' sacrifice on our behalf. In this meal you give us his true body and blood, which paid our debt to you and assures us of your forgiveness. For all of your undeserved love toward us, we give thanks and praise to your living and life-giving name: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER — *Pater Noster*

Matthew 6:9-13; Luke 11:2-4

C Our Father, in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins,
as we forgive those
who sin against us.
Lead us not into temptation,
but deliver ✠ us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory
are yours now and forever. Amen.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

Matthew 26:26-30; Mark 14:22-24;

Luke 22:19-20; 1 Corinthians 11:23-25

M Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying: "Take and eat. This is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, which is poured

*The words of our Lord
in the Words of
Institution bestow
exactly what they say.
In the words of
consecration the
Lord's Word delivers
His body and blood
for our forgiveness.
Though we are blessed
with many good foods
throughout the week,
no other meal gives
the body and blood of
Christ to sinners.*

The resurrected Lord calmed the fears of the disciples with His peace. The resurrected Lord is present in the Supper, and so the pastor speaks peace to us on His behalf. Agnus Dei means Lamb of God, and reminds us that Jesus is the Lamb of God, sacrificed for our forgiveness. During stressful times, remember the peace of Christ that you received today in His Supper.

out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me.”

PEACE OF THE LORD — *Pax Domini*

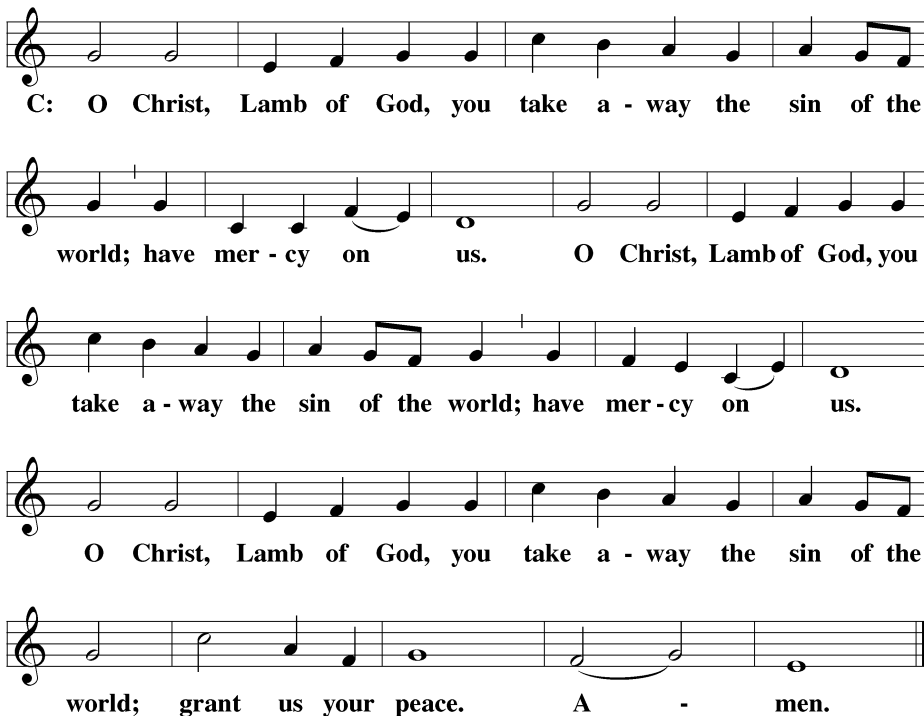
John 20:19

[M] The peace of the Lord be with you always.



LAMB OF GOD — *Agnus Dei*

John 1:29



Be seated.

DISTRIBUTION

Those who will be receiving Holy Communion today may wish to read **Personal Preparation for Holy Communion**, found on page 156 in the front section of the hymnal. This page helps us put into practice what the Bible encourages: “Everyone ought to examine themselves before they eat of the bread and drink from the cup.” (1 Corinthians 11:28)

Prayer suggestions for before and after receiving the Lord's Supper can be found in the hymnal on pages 10-11 and 134-139.

In dismissing the communicants, the minister says:

- [M]** Now, may this true body and blood strengthen and keep you in the true faith to life everlasting. Your sins ✝ are forgiven. Go in peace. Amen.

PRAYER FOR GRACE

- M** Hear the prayer of your people, O Lord, that the lips which have praised you here may glorify you in the world, that the eyes which have seen the coming of your Son may long for his coming again, and that all who have received in his true body and blood the pledge of your forgiveness may be restored to live a new and holy life, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



C: A - men.

BLESSING

Numbers 6:22-27

- [M]** Brothers and sisters, go in peace. Live in harmony with one another. Serve the LORD with gladness.

The LORD bless you and keep you.

The LORD make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The LORD look on you with favor and ✚ give you peace.



C: A - men. A - men. A - men.

Be seated.

As we began the service with the Lord's name, so we are sent out in His name. Live each day with confidence, knowing that you have the Lord's blessing and presence with you.



Announcements

BIBLE CLASS AND SUNDAY SCHOOL TODAY! Following the service today, Sunday School and Bible Class will meet. Sunday School will begin at 10:45 in the Education Building. Bible Class will begin at 10:45 in the Multipurpose Room. We will continue our look at the *Book of Revelation*.

CONGREGATION AT PRAYER A copy of the newest “A Congregation at Prayer” is available on the table in the entryway. This packet is not only a good outline for personal and family devotions, but it also includes an up-to-date prayer list for those in (and outside) our congregation.

SUNDAY MORNING TREAT SIGN-UP A sign-up sheet is posted on the bulletin board in the entry way to bring fellowship treats for this fall and early winter. If you’re willing to provide food on a given Sunday, please consider signing up.

LWMS FALL RALLY The 2016 Nebraska Central Plains LWMS Fall Rally will be held at Grace Lutheran in Geneva, NE this coming Saturday, October 15, 2016. The speaker for the rally will be Linda Liesener, chairwoman of the Central African Medical Mission [CAMM]. She will be

giving a presentation titled, “Healing of Body and Soul in Africa.” A special offering will be taken for CAMM at the rally. Registration is from 9-10a and the reporters meet at 9:45a. Baby sitting is available. If interested, contact Judith Fischer at (402) 759-4639.

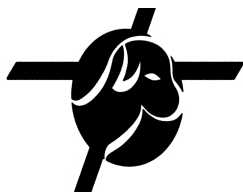
TOOTHBRUSHES NEEDED The Central African Medical Mission [CAMM] is in dire need of soft-bristled child and adult toothbrushes. If you are willing to purchase some, or have some laying around the house, please get them to Pastor Seelow by the end of the week. He will bring them to the LWMS rally in Geneva, NE on Saturday to give to the CAMM representative.

This Week’s Calendar

- Tuesday, October 10**7p — “Broken” Bible Class
- Wednesday, October 11**4p — Catechism
- Friday, October 14**9a — Platte Circuit Pastor’s Meeting at Kearney, NE
- Saturday, October 15**.....9a — LWMS Fall Rally at Grace, Geneva, NE
- Sunday, October 16**9:30a — Divine Service with Holy Communion
10:30 — Fellowship
10:45a — Sunday School
10:45a — *Book of Revelation* Bible Class

Ushers: Rick & Mannie Reinsch
Greeters: Jim & Wanda Cantrell
Sound Tech: Jamie Scott

Cleaning (10/9-10/15)*Church*—Cantrell; *Fellowship*—Darby; *Ed. Bldg.*—Haas
Mowing.....Scott



www.goodshepherdkearney.org